

THE

Next-Notes' Friend



"UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL."

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LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF WILLIAM B. SWETT.

A PERILOUS ADVENTURE.

ONE Saturday noon, after dinner, the other workmen and myself were outside of the Hotel, chatting and smoking before resuming work, when one of them asked me, in a bantering way, if I could ascend Eagle Cliff directly from the Hotel, instead of taking the usual roundabout way. After some hesitation, I said I could do it and would go if I could get permission to leave work, and that I would fling out a white flag at the top. All the lumber which we used had to be brought over the mountains on teams, and it was slow and tedious work. This was before the idea occurred to the proprietors to build a steam saw-mill, which was afterwards done and from which an ample supply was furnished. As we happened to be out of lumber at the time, I readily obtained leave of absence.

Procuring a table-cloth and some stout twine, and taking neither coat, axe or lunch as usual,—so confident was I that I should need none of them—I plunged into the woods, about two o'clock, P.M., and commenced the ascent. The day was warm; the work uncomfortable and the midgets, or wood flies, more troublesome than ever. I had to keep my hands constantly in motion about my face to keep them off; their bite being always annoying and often poisonous. The ascent became more and more difficult, and I made up my mind that it was a mad work to get to the top; but to think of returning was not pleasant, as the boys would laugh at me. I might take the usual way, and no one be the wiser, but that would

be a cheat and so I kept on. I had often to scramble up on my hands and knees and to pull myself up by roots and bushes, being very cautious about it, as they had no firm hold in the ground and were easily pulled up. A bush suddenly gave way in one place and, had not a large tree prevented it, I should have had a serious fall upon the jagged rocks twenty feet below. It was now impossible to descend, for I was on a ledge from which no downward path was visible. Working my way up with immense labor, I at last discovered a huge crack or fissure, some thirty feet long, two feet wide and ten feet high, with several trees growing in it; and I squeezed myself up and through it. At its end I was glad to see that I was near the top, which I quickly gained. While resting from the fatigue induced by my exertions, I was troubled with unpleasant doubts about a safe return; but I dismissed them for the present and, climbing the tallest tree I could find, I obtained a truly sublime view. The tree waved gently to and fro in the wind with a soothing effect; Lafayette lifted itself far toward the sky, and far below me was the Profile House, looking no larger than a bird-house, such as are often set up by boys. I longed to have some of my friends present to share my delight. I tied the tablecloth out on the branches and immediately the guests and workmen began to congregate in front of the Hotel and to wave their handkerchiefs to show that they saw that I had really reached the top, although they probably had not expected to see me make my appearance in the top of a tree. Descending from the tree, after an hour of true enjoyment, I was soon convinced that it was impossible to return by the way I had come, and that my only course was to make the best of my way to the columnar crag and search for a path down its side. The distance was only half a mile, but the undergrowth was so thick and fallen trees so numerous that my progress was very slow. I now repented not having brought my hand-axe, with which to cut my way through. The pitiless midgets followed me in clouds; I never smoke, or I could easily have kept them off. I have tried mosquito netting around my head and face, but found it to answer no good purpose as, besides being easily torn, it interfered with the frequent necessity of wiping away the perspiration and was otherwise uncomfortable.

From the brink of the crag, to which I finally attained, I had another glorious view of the Hills; a small part of the chin of the "Old Man" could be seen, but nothing of the nose, mouth or fore-

head. I built a small fire in a hole in the rock, both to drive off the midgets and attract the attention of those below. The crowd soon saw the smoke and the waving of handkerchiefs was repeated.

I had stepped on a piece of rock to have a better view, and as I turned to get down I felt it move; with a sudden spring I grasped a bush and fell flat upon my breast, while the stone rolled over and went thundering down the precipice. I wished to get down the cliff, it is true, but not in that hasty fashion, as I came near doing. Putting out the fire, a precaution the importance of which I would impress upon all who build fires in the woods, the neglect of it having caused many extensive conflagrations, I resumed my search for a way down. During this time, a pair of large owls flew up from the depths below, fluttered blindly about for a moment or two and then dove down again. I am not superstitious, otherwise the appearance of these birds, considered of evil omen, at such a time and place, might have depressed my already heavy spirits. After a long search, I found I was in a tight place, and saw no other way out of it than to go down the opposite side of cliff and ascend Mount Lafayette.

Viewed from a distance, the deep, black ravine that scars the mountain side seemed easy of ascent, a complete deception, as will be seen. Once at the top of the ravine, I could easily gain the well known bridle-path and from that point the way was clear. I should also have another extensive view and it was rare for one to get three different views, from points so far apart, on the same day. I was admonished to make haste, as the sun, considering the distance I had yet to go and the probable and possible difficulties of the way, was unpleasantly near setting.

I ran, jumped and slid as far as the bottom of the valley, where I stopped to quench my thirst in a clear, sparkling brook which ran there, built a fire to keep the midgets away, and sat down to rest a little, contemplating meanwhile, the yawning blackness of the ravine, which was now directly in front of me and looked gloomy enough, but its very gloom was sublime.

As soon as I got well rested, I commenced the ascent in earnest. I was frequently obliged to cross and re-cross the rushing brook; the sides were very steep and trees and bushes were scattered here and there, but the ravine was mostly lined, as far as one could see, with large and small stones from which the rains had washed away the earth until many of them stood ready to roll down at a touch

or even at a heavy jar. The sun shone straight into the chasm and the lofty sides kept the wind away; the heat was almost suffocating, and before long most of my clothing was saturated with perspiration. The ascent, comparatively easy at first, became more difficult every moment and the heat more oppressive; to think of stopping was out of the question, as eight miles still lay between myself and the Profile House. Detention by darkness would very likely be death. I could not shorten the distance by climbing the side, for the underbrush was impenetrable without an axe. So I pushed along painfully; I was much fatigued and excited, my feet were sore, the soles of my shoes, new the day before, being worn through. I began to fear I could not extricate myself from the ravine, and I prayed for deliverance as I had never prayed before; thoughts of my family, and of my past life flashed through my mind.

It is remarkable, how rapidly and clearly a man can think when in danger; in what a short space of time every act of his life, good or bad, passes in review before him.

About this time I stepped on a loose rock which slid from under my feet and rolled heavily downward, starting numerous other rocks in its course and raising an immense cloud of dust. I soon discovered a new source of danger: the jar and the reverberations of the rolling stones below me had started those above, and they now rolled past in considerable numbers, some of them passing quite near me. The rock on which I now stood—to which I had sprung when the other gave way—was quite slippery and I could not move out of the way should any of the stones come in my direction, lest I lose my footing and follow them to the bottom.

The ravine above and ahead of me was steep and quite smooth. Looking up, to see how long the commotion was likely to last, I saw a huge rock far up the slope coming directly down upon me at a fearful speed. I also noticed that a large rock cropped out ten or twelve feet above my head and that the coming stone would hit it and, in all probability, fetch both upon me and hurl me to destruction. Mentally bidding farewell to the world and commending my spirit to God, I kept my eyes fixed on the rock. It struck the projection,—which proved to be a solid spur in the mountain side, and consequently did not move—bounded over my head and went spinning to the bottom, where it flew into a thousand pieces.

A few more stones passed me and then all became quiet again. I cannot describe my feelings at this deliverance, but I imagine I

know how a man feels who has been reprieved at the foot of the gallows.

I now took courage and resumed the ascent, picking my way up carefully. Farther on, I came to a broad, flat rock, steep, wet and slippery. Being unable to go around it on either side, I went down on hands and knees and crawled up its surface. Reaching what I thought a safe place, I attempted to stand upright. My feet slipped and I fell on my face, bruising myself considerably, I slid on and down till my eye caught a little crack in the rock, into which I got the ends of my fingers and thus stopped the descent, though it seemed only a postponement of the inevitable end, for, of course, I could not hold on forever. I could not move; the clouds of midgets, which had followed me all along, now seemed to know that their opportunity had come and settled in a mass on my neck, face and hands. The torment was terrible, but I was helpless.

Over the surface of the rock on which I was spread out, the water trickled from a spring above, and I was soon quite wet. If I was obliged to stay out all night, my only safety was in having a good fire. Since leaving the last place where I had made a fire, I had discovered that I laid my matches on the ground, while lighting it, and left them there; and that I had but one solitary match, which was in my vest pocket. My greatest fear now was that this one match would get wet and I be thus reduced to extremity.

Looking carefully around, I saw a crevice not far from my feet, into which, if I could get my feet, I could resume my progress on hands and knees. The length of my legs, inconvenient at times, now did me good service, as they could just reach it. Cautiously letting go my hold with one hand and finding it was safe, I indulged in a savage sweep at the midgets on my face, giving me a slight relief. A little exertion enabled me to get out of my dangerous situation, crawl away, continue my upward progress and reach the strange-looking rock, near the top of the mountain, known as the "Altar," where I dropped on the moss, utterly exhausted but very thankful that the worst was over.

A little dirty water helped to revive me. The sun was near setting—it had set long ago to those in the valleys below—and the air, clearer than at any of my previous visits, afforded me a most magnificent view, the beauty of which chained me to my seat till the light began to fade away. My one match proved to have fortunately remained unwet and the descent of the mountain by the bridle-path now began.

The sharp stones hurt my feet and my progress was not rapid; when the woods below the cone of the mountain were reached, the darkness rendered further progress dangerous without a light; the idea of a night in the woods was rejected, a pile of white birch bark was collected and a torch made; the one match, upon the ignition of which so much depended, was drawn with a prayer for success, the torch blazed forth and by its light the foot of the mountain was reached at last. Then followed a long rest on the grass at the side of the road, rendered doubly sweet by a knowledge that the danger was past and only two miles of smooth travel now intervened.

The Hotel was finally reached, and it is doubted if a more famished tatterdemalion was ever seen within its walls than entered them about ten o'clock that night and sank helplessly on a chair.

My entrance cut short the speculations and allayed the anxieties of all concerned. Every attention was rendered, a bountiful supper was furnished and after doing it ample justice I was glad to crawl off to bed. The next day, a full account of the adventure on my part and a liberal collection on that of the guests ended the matter for the present.

"NOT WORTH A STRAW."—Perhaps a straw is not so worthless as you think. Let us see. Straws are the stems of wheat, rye, oats, and barley. In order to wave to and fro in the wind, and yet bear up the heads of grain, they must be both *light* and *strong*. Let us see how lightness is secured. They are made hollow, you see, like quills; and yet not hollow through the whole length, for every now and then we find a knob or joint, which helps to brace up the sides and make them strong. The straw outside is hard and looks shiny, as if it had been polished. It is polished, and that keeps the weather and the insects from it, besides adding to its strength. Polish! but where does it get polish? God gave these plants the power of drawing up through their roots this gummy sort of varnish from the earth. It is flint: there is nothing like it on the stem of the sweet pea or the currant bush, because they do not need it. But does it not show God's wisdom and knowledge in giving this power to one plant where it is needed, and withholding it from others where it is not? So you see, that even a straw can show the wonderful power of our Creator, God, and speak his praise.

DURING one of the visits of the Baltimore City Council to the Washington Institute, one of the smaller boys was called up to exhibit his acquirements. He wrote: "A man runs from a cow. He is a coward." This unconscious perpetration of a pun by the boy created much amusement.

Miscellany.

[Original.]

CONSOLATION.

"A LITTLE while, and you will be, where shadows never come;
Where is no sorrow, grief or woe, and none are deaf and dumb.
A little while, and you will sing, and hear the angels' song,
'Children of silence,' patience have, for it will not be long.

A little while, and you will sing, the praise of God's own son;
Of Him who came from Heaven above, where none are deaf and dumb.
For in that land, where all is fair, there are no griefs or pains;
The dumb shall speak, the deaf shall hear, in Heaven, where Jesus reigns.

A little while, life's sun will set, to rise again in Heaven,
Then will you mourn those earthly joys, that to you were not given?
For you can never, never hear, on earth, a sound of woe;
No sound of evil or of sin, the deaf can ever know.

But up in Heaven, where all is fair, God gives the blind their sight;
He spared them views of sinful earth; now all they see is bright.
And up in Heaven, where angels sing, God makes the deaf to hear;
And heavenly music is the first, that falls upon their ear.
And up in Heaven, to sing His praise, God loosens every tongue;
In that fair land the blind shall see, and none be deaf and dumb."

THE Deaf-Mute's College at Washington is just now celebrating its Annual Commencement. We regard the education of the deaf-mutes and their careful preparation for public usefulness with a good deal of interest. We have often thought what excellent Members of Congress, other things being equal, they would be. Incapable of boisterous vociferation, guarded by nature from the temptation of windy rhetoric, sure to make no more than a reasonable demand upon the columns of the *Congressional Globe*, and proof against the seductions of lobby button-holing, they would be able to give their whole minds to the dispatch of business. A deaf and dumb Speaker of the House would be an incarnate bull, but a plenty of deaf and dumb members would be charming.—*New York Tribune*, June 23.

THE pantomime of the stage (essentially our language of signs) had been carried to such perfection in the time of the Roman Emperor, Nero, that a king from the borders of the Euxine, or Black Sea, seeing a pantomime performed at Rome, begged one of the performers, to be used as an interpreter with the nations in his neighborhood.

ANNUAL EXAMINATION AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION.

BY JOHN R. BURNET.

THE closing exercises of this Institution took place Wednesday, June 23d, in the presence of a large and delighted assemblage. The examination of the classes was made during the three previous week-days by a Committee of the Board of Directors, of which Rev. Dr. Barnard, President of Columbia College, was chairman, aided by two or three gentlemen and ladies whose benevolent interest in the subject of deaf-mute education led them to give their time to this labor of philanthropy.

The examination showed decided and, in many cases, remarkable progress during the year. The hand-writing of most of the pupils was very distinct and legible, the orthography, even of the youngest pupils, almost uniformly correct, the few slips in that way being misplacements of the letters of a very unfamiliar word. The youngest pupils—those who were only six to eight years old, and had been in school only a few months—had already learned to write one or two hundred words and some sentences.

The high class is composed of about thirty young men and young ladies, who, after completing the usual course, are retained for three years more to study some higher branches, partly for their practical utility, and partly as desirable accomplishments and means of mental discipline, such as chemistry, algebra, moral and natural philosophy, and some of the languages. I saw a young lady of this class write out a portion of the gospel of St. John accurately in French. The same young lady translated a Latin fable, and solved a tough problem in Euclid. This class is invaluable as a nursery of teachers. Several of the best teachers of this and other kindred institutions were graduates of this class. I would add that, as a general rule, the deaf-mute teachers, who are two-thirds of the whole, are decidedly the most efficient. With one or two splendid exceptions, the speaking teachers cannot, at least in the instruction of the younger classes, hoe an even row with the deaf-mute teachers. One of these last has been teaching in the Institution more than thirty years, and the class he now has is one of the best drilled for its years I ever saw.

In their address of welcome to their examiner (Judge Kirkland), some of the young ladies were pleased to say that while they would try to do their best, they wished to say that if successful, much of the credit would be due to their teacher, whereas, if found deficient, the fault would be wholly their own. A graceful humility, which I trust the teacher duly appreciated.

But I undertook to give you an account of the closing ceremonies yesterday. These were held in the spacious and beautiful chapel of the institution, which, for the occasion, was entirely encircled with a chain of evergreens,

blossoming out at every link with roses and miniature flags. The star span-gled banner also waved over the platform and in the main hall. A generous lunch was provided, and there was plenty of iced water. A way train on the Hudson River Railroad stopped opposite the Institution at half-past two, and landed a hundred invited guests, while another hundred or two, chiefly relatives and friends of one or another of our five hundred pupils, were already present. Spacious as is the chapel, there was danger of many of the pupils being crowded out by the throng of eager visitors. And as most of them had been moved to come by feelings of curious interest in one of the noblest causes of Christian benevolence, the general aspect of the assembly was one to make us think superior beauty and intellect are the rule, not the exception, in our part of America.

The exercises were begun by a curious exhibition which is probably new to most of your readers. The accomplished Principal, (I. L. Peet,) has devised an alphabet by which letters and words can be communicated to a whole company of deaf-mutes at once without the aid of the eye, even in the dark, or through a partition. Taking a drum in his hand, he ranges his pupils in a row, with their backs towards him, and asking the audience to suggest a word, he gives it out letter by letter, by taps of the drum, corresponding to the dots of the telegraphic alphabet. The taps cause a vibration that reaches the pupil's nerves through the floor, and he promptly writes out the word. By such an expedient, we may imagine the word of command given to a regiment of deaf-mutes, and in fact, that is done several times a day in the Institution, the movements of its nearly 300 boys, whenever they are assembled together, being timed by the beating of a drum.

The exercises on this occasion were as follows:—1st, exhibitions of the graphic power and eloquence of the language of pantomime, which excited great interest, and elicited much laughter and applause, and 2d, written exercises by some selected pupils, to show to what elevation of thought and correctness, even eloquence of language, deaf-mutes are capable of attaining. Among other questions proposed was, "What is a palindrome?" to which one of them replied, "It is a word or sentence that spells the same backward or forward. For instance, Bonaparte being asked if he thought he could have conquered England, replied: 'Able was I ere I saw Elba.'" The question was proposed, "What is the difference between a rose and a snow flake?" to which one young lady, who might have passed herself for a white and red rose, replied: "The difference is the same as between a beautiful, but cold woman, and a warm, loving one; we admire the one as we do the snow flakes, which are the purest things we can see, but we do not like to approach near, for she is cold, and, like the snow flake, chills us. But the other draws us to love her as we do the rose—how and why we cannot tell."

Being asked which is the first command of God, one quoted the first of the ten commandments; another wrote, "Order is Heaven's first law;" while a

third wrote, "The first command of our God was the words, 'Let there be Light.'"

The exercises were cut short by the necessity of being ready for the return train, which, for this occasion, was to stop opposite the Institution. Down the hill two hundred people rushed pell mell, grave divines and judges vying in the headlong race, and were in time to see an express train go past without stopping. If misery loves company, there was much misery comforted then and there, during the half hour this company waited for the promised but belated way train, which finally came up, was quickly filled, and bore the crowd away.

To-day (24) there is unwonted commotion. All day trunks and bags have been packing, and going off by express. Almost every pupil wears, pinned to his or her breast, a ribbon denoting by its color, the comparative standing for diligence and good conduct, in ascending orders, blue, red, green, yellow, reaching the climax in white. They have been carefully marshalled in companies, according to the routes they are to take homeward, each company under the care of one or more teachers, and have been cautioned to keep each to his or her company. Crackers by the barrel have been put up in papers to give every one a lunch on the cars, and many have been furnished with books and newspapers to read by the way.

About six this afternoon, a train of cars, to which by special arrangement, two empty ones had been attached, appropriated to the pupils, who by special favor of the railroad companies, are permitted to travel at half price, stopped opposite our grounds; the pupils who were to go by this train were standing ready, travelling bags and parcels in hand. A few moments sufficed to fill the two cars, and the train moved away, while the waving of handkerchiefs and newspapers conveyed the farewell greetings between those who went and those who remained. Other companies go to-morrow, and in a few days the vast pile of buildings will look almost deserted. But September will bring back the happy faces, and a multitude of hands will convey from eye to eye the incidents of travel and of home enjoyment, in which our five hundred deaf-mutes will recuperate their mental energies, gaining strength for the intellectual struggles of the next academic year.

A SECTION of the front wall of the new Chapel building of the Washington Institute, now in process of erection, was blown down during a recent storm. The building is of brown stone, and much damage was done to the delicate sculpture of the material. This building will be entirely finished by January, 1870; and a section, including the kitchen and one dining-room, will be ready for use in September. The crowded state of the College makes it greatly needed.

THE Ithaca Convention promises to be a large and good one.

A LIBERAL BEQUEST.

THE will of the late John Clarke, of Northampton, who originally gave \$50,000 to the Institution for the deaf and dumb, in that place, has been opened and placed on file at the probate office in Northampton. His property is valued at about \$200,000, and after giving a little over \$30,000 to his relatives, he bequeaths \$10,000 to various charitable institutions, \$40,000 to the public library and for the erection of a hall, and about \$120,000 to the Clarke Institution for the deaf and dumb. The latter is to be placed at interest and kept until it reaches the sum of \$200,000, when it is to be paid over to the Clarke Institution, providing the trustees have not, and will not, purchase any part of the land or building owned by L. J. Dudley, and now occupied by the school. In case they purchase Mr. Dudley's premises, then the \$200,000 shall be paid over to his next of kin, to be divided in accordance with the law regulating the distribution of intestate personal estates.

The bequest to the Institution is placed in charge of three trustees, to be held by them until it reaches the value, in gold coin, of \$200,000, when it shall be paid over to the Clarke Institution, under the restrictions named above. Osmyon Baker, J. H. Butler, and William Allen are named in the will as executors and trustees. They are not to be compelled to give bonds, and each is only accountable for his own acts.

The will was made March 13, 1867, but two codicils were afterward made and attached, bearing date of February 1 and February 10, 1869, changing in part the several bequests. Mr. Clarke originally contemplated giving all but about \$30,000 of his property to the Clarke Institute, six years after his death, in case the Commonwealth had not established an institution of the same nature in another part of the State; but, other questions arising, his plan was changed. He was greatly dissatisfied with the present location of the school, and in his bequest he has effectually guarded against its becoming permanent, and, of course, the matter of location will be waived for such a handsome donation as \$200,000. The will was drawn by William Allen, and makes provisions for paying the trustees for their labor in settling the estate and taking charge of the funds until paid over to the Institute.

IN the fourth century, St. Augustine, commenting on the words of the Apostle: "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God," remarks that deafness from birth makes faith impossible, since he who is born deaf can neither hear the word nor learn to read it. What would the Saint say, lived he in the nineteenth century?

THE bridal presents of Rev. Thomas Gallaudet's daughter, (Mrs. Shaw,) aggregated the large sum of ten thousand dollars.

Agricultural Department.

FARM NOTES FOR AUGUST.

Go on with your hay-making, if not already finished, remembering that hay cut when the grasses are mature and nearly dry needs much less drying than that cut early. The hay, indeed, will only be of any value when put up with as little drying as will suffice to prevent its heating in the mow or stack.

Cut all you can that will pay for mowing; but endeavor rather to feed out all your hay than to have a surplus to sell. To cart hay off the farm for sale, unless you cart manure back, will tend to make your farms poorer every year.

Oats are fit to cut early this month. This grain is more apt than any other to be spoiled by heating in the mow, whence the musty smell of so much of the oats in market.

The best way is to leave it in shocks or small stacks for a few days, till it has had time to sweat and then open these to let the sheaves dry in the sun, before putting them in the barn. If you do not mean to thresh early, it may sometimes save much oats, that would be destroyed by mice, to put them in the middle of a stack of hay. The mice might not happen to find them nearly so soon as when stowed in the accustomed place in the barn.

August is a good time to cut up bushes and briars. They are more apt to be killed if cut up this month than later in the season. To kill sprouts on newly cleared land the best way is to beat them off the stumps with the back of an axe, or with an old axe past grinding. If this be done as often as they appear, they will generally give up the contest after being beaten off a few times.

In very dry weather, clean out your ditches; and cart muck and decaying vegetable matters from any swamps you may have on your place to your barn-yard to be mixed with the stable manure and the droppings of cattle. Thus mixed, the muck will soon become equal to the manure, whereas, if applied at once, without mixture, to the fields, it is generally too sour and unfermented to do any good. By thus treating the deposits of so many centuries, left in swamps and hollows of your farm, you will find what are now nuisances converted to mines of wealth.

It is well to plow in August the land designed for winter grain. It should then be plowed again in September before sowing. The repeated plowings, by burying weeds, and exposing the finely divided soil to the influence of the air, will greatly promote a vigorous growth of the grain before winter.

If your pastures fail, as is often the case at this season, feed your milch cows, especially, with green food, for which purpose corn planted late and cut up when in blossom is one of the best things that can be used. The yield of milk and butter will amply pay for this extra attention, and the cattle will be in much better condition to begin winter.

J. R. B.

Religious Department.

CLOSING SERMON AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION.

BY ISAAC LEWIS PEET, PRINCIPAL, SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 1869.

"When wisdom entereth into thy heart and knowledge is pleasant to thy soul; discretion shall preserve thee; understanding shall keep thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things."—*Proverbs 2: 10—12.*

Wisdom, knowledge and discretion are among the very best and highest gifts of God to men. It is these that distinguish man from the animals. It is the higher degree of these that distinguishes the civilized man from the savage, and it is the knowledge of divine things that distinguishes the christian from the heathen.

To enable you to obtain these, this Institution was established.

On this last Sabbath of our year of study, when some of you are to depart to return no more, and when all of us are to be separated for a season, what greater service can I render you than to make a practical application of the words of the text—words that are strung by the Divine hand as an amulet for your neck, an amulet which, so long as you shall wear it, shall preserve you from all that is really evil.

To those who pass the vacation here, let me say: "You should spend your time in such wise as to increase in wisdom. In alternations of work and play and study you may get health of body and of mind and be better prepared to begin the new term with vigor. You should strictly avoid all evil habits and make the task of those who have the responsibility of your care as light as possible."

To those who visit home and friends, I would remark: "True wisdom will lead you to profit by the many opportunities you will have of visiting new scenes and of coming into new relations. Converse by writing as much as you can. Lead a truly religious life. Delight your parents with your love, comfort them by your good conduct and assist them in their labors, and when you leave them to return here, let them have the assurance that, while away from them as well as while with them, you are to be trusted."

To those who now take their departure to enter upon the responsibilities of life, I must now say: "Farewell. Be wise. Be true. Be earnest. Be industrious. Do not consider your education complete. Remember that you stand only on the threshold of knowledge. Every day, read a portion of some good book, which, with or without the aid of a dictionary, you can understand, and endeavor to remember the facts and write them out in your own language.

Make a daily record of what you see and think, and if you have any kind

friend able and willing to correct what you write, ask him to do so. Do not forget what you have learned of Geography, and History and Arithmetic, but go on increasing your knowledge thereof, for these are the sciences that will be of most practical value to you.

Those of you who have pursued a higher course should review all you have learned here, and go on in the same direction learning more and more. Thus will you be fitted for higher and higher usefulness.

Save a portion of your earnings for the purchase of books and consider them a part of your wealth.

Above all, read the Bible every day. Let this Holy Book be your guide, for it is the voice of God speaking to you, a voice which you have learned to hear.

Avoid all scenes of temptation.

Be temperate, honest and pure.

Live, if possible, on half your earnings; save the remainder.

Attend public worship regularly. You may not hear the blessed words of the preacher, but you will be in God's house, where His Spirit is, and you cannot fail to find, among so many christians, some one who will be able and willing to give you some idea of the services. Attend the Sabbath School or Bible Class and ask the teacher to prepare questions beforehand, in writing, that you may answer.

Never rise or retire without Prayer, and Trust with all your heart in Christ, who died to save you, who has given you the means of Education, who follows you with His sympathy, and who waits for you in Heaven.

Cultivate His Spirit, follow His example and never, never cast a stain upon His holy cause."

A SERMON ON THE DEATH OF LAURENT CLERC.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE DEAF-MUTES OF BOSTON BY PROF. DAVID E. BARTLETT,
SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1869.

SUBJECT: The transitory nature of our life on earth, and the influence of each successive age on the following one.

"The fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they live forever?" *Zechariah I: 5.*

REMARKS.

We have lately seen one of the fathers laid in the grave, and to-day we are gathered around his tomb to catch the instruction that the occasion of his death gives us.

1. The scenes of our life are transitory. The children of to-day are fathers to-morrow, and the next day they cease from earth and others fill their places.

2. The great business of life is education ; each successive period of our life is a preparation for the succeeding one. Life on earth is education for Eternity.

Let us briefly review the life of our deceased friend and teacher and see what it teaches us. Let us notice some of the traits of character that he exhibited in his life and that are worthy of our imitation.

1. His ready intelligence and his industrious attention to the study of language in his youth.

His progress in language and his proficiency in the use both of French and English was very remarkable. In this he was an admirable example for all deaf-mute students of language.

2. His generosity, modesty and freedom from self-preference.

Many incidents might be related to prove these traits of character, but one will suffice :—

When Mr. Gallaudet, a short time before he left France, told Mr. Clerc that he wished to take some well educated deaf-mute to America as an assistant, Mr. Clerc mentioned several graduates of the Paris Institution, among whose number he thought Mr. Gallaudet might find one to answer his purpose. He never thought of himself, and was much surprised when Mr. Gallaudet expressed a decided preference for him and invited him to go ; but after due consideration he decided to go, and *generously* left home, friends, and country to do what he could for the benefit of the deaf-mutes of a strange land. That he has done much, you all know ; and that he was modest, generous, and self-sacrificing to the end.

3. His active, vigorous, and enterprising devotion to the welfare of others.

4. His kindness and tender sympathy.

5. His freedom from sectarian bigotry in religion. He was educated in the French Roman Catholic Church, but finding himself, in the place of his residence in this country, among Christians of other sects, he united and communed with the Protestant Episcopal Church. In his last days, he acknowledged his sinfulness of heart and life, and his dependence on the pardon and mercy of God, in Jesus Christ the only Saviour of mankind.

But he is gone ! All earthly teachers fail ! Christ is the great teacher. Clerc taught *three* forms of language addressed to one of the senses. Christ teaches *all* forms of language, and communicates thought in modes independent of all the senses. Clerc taught in France and in America. Christ teaches throughout the universe,—men, angels, and arch-angels ! Let us learn of Christ and become educated for Heaven and for eternity.

THE man who says Christianity is a failure, and that he will do nothing toward the erection of a church or the maintenance of Christian institutions because the world would be as well off without them, does not know how entirely fallacious is the ground he occupies.

THE HEAVENLY JUBILEE.

WE have received the following article, with a request to publish. It is thought to be interesting to the deaf and dumb, as they will be able to take part in the occasion, while the "Great Jubilee" lately held in Boston, was to them, as far as *sound* was concerned, "a ceremonious and unmeaning show."

Our readers will find it an interesting exercise to take their Bibles and to read the texts which are referred to.

Where will it be held? *Rev. iv: 1. Rev. xv: 5.*

Who will be there? *Rev. xxi: 24-27.*

The Great Chorus. *Rev. vii: 9.*

Who will constitute it? *Rev. vii: 13-14.*

What will be their song? *Rev. xix: 6. xv: 3. xv: 12.*

How long will it continue? *1 Thessalonians iv: 17.*

All are invited to this Jubilee. *Rev. xxi: 17.*

From all the countless multitude,
Whose sins have been forgiven,
Shall rise a joyous hymn of praise
To Him who reigns in Heaven.

Saved by His mighty power,
From sin forever free,
Through endless ages they shall keep
The heavenly jubilee.

TEACH JESUS.—"Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread."

These words caught my attention, as I turned the leaves of a new copy of the Bible, handed me by a friend the other day. My first thought was of the beautiful simplicity of Bible language. Then the Spirit said: "Sunday-School teacher, here is a lesson for you. Every lesson you take to your class, failing to teach Jesus, is like this negligence on the part of his disciples. Without bread, so aptly called 'the Staff of Life,' who would not feel that the meal was wanting, whatever else might be on the table? Jesus is himself the great store-house, to which we may ever have access. He is the 'Bread of Life,' and His command to us is 'Feed my lambs;' and He means that we should teach Jesus, simply and plainly Jesus; and no matter whatever else of instruction, or interest, or beauty we may have to bring before our classes, if we fail to show them Jesus so plainly that they cannot help seeing Him, we fail in the great essential." Dear fellow-teacher, do not let one of your scholars go home and say, "Mamma, my teacher did not tell me anything about Jesus to-day." Do not let the Master say of you, "That disciple forgot to take bread."—*Zion's Herald.*

THE DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND.

WM. MARTIN CHAMBERLAIN, Editor.

AUGUST, 1869.

SINCE "T. B." started the idea of a National Convention, various opinions have been expressed as to time, place, and expediency.

To our mind, the time and place are of little importance until the necessity and practical usefulness of such a convention are fully established. We have now two local Associations:—"The New England Gallaudet Association of Deaf-Mutes" and "The Empire State Association of Deaf-Mutes," with some talk of organizing another in the West, which would probably be followed, in time, by one in the South. As the case now stands, we have a Convention in each year, alternately in New England and in New York.

That these Conventions tend to keep alive the feelings of brotherhood and friendship among the mutes at large, cannot be disputed, and it will also be admitted that they are and have been productive of good in more ways than one; but we question whether they have yet been so thoroughly adapted to the wants of our class, or have had their capacities for good as fully developed as is possible.

There is much *apparent* truth in "Kouponeti's" remark, in the FRIEND for July, that the object of these conventions seems to be "merely to assemble, pass a few unimportant resolutions, deliver an oration, which is in itself the chief feature of the day, elect officers, shake hands, and adjourn to meet again two years hence; but this is not all.—The assembling gives an opportunity for the renewal and strengthening of old friendships; for the interchange of ideas and feelings to an extent and with a beneficial and refreshing effect which the mutes do not often obtain at home. The oration, when appropriately written and clearly delivered, furnishes them with subject for thought and practice afterwards, and cannot fail to have more or less good effect upon their minds and hearts. The election of officers gives them an insight into the system of government, and enables them to put it into practical use with an understanding of the matter. The passage of resolutions teaches them one of the courtesies of society. The addresses which follow the oration, the pleasant anecdotes, the witty sallies and the senti-

ments and speeches at the "Festival" which usually winds up the proceedings, all tend to sharpen their wits, brighten their intellects and stir their mental faculties into renewed activity. "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

We have been in the habit, for years, of attending these Conventions, both with an eye to business and to pleasure, and we never attended one but we returned with refreshed mental faculties, new ideas and pleasant memories. Hence, we are in favor of these annual gatherings of the "children of silence."

Still, we think they might be more thoroughly organized and so ordered that all proper tastes might be gratified, perverted ones improved, and moral as well as intellectual and social improvement attained. While they are not as perfect as they might be, yet they will compare favorably with the gatherings, for political, social and other purposes, which our hearing brethren hold.

To return to the subject. Let us first know what the object of a National Convention is to be; what subject is to be discussed, and how. Let the subject be one of general interest to the mutes of the land; let it be of sufficient importance to warrant the outlay of time and money consequent on such a gathering; and after all this is accomplished and decided upon, it will be time enough to talk about time and place, which two items, of course, should be so arranged as to secure a general attendance from all parts of the country.

Meantime, our advice is, to bring the local and minor Conventions, as well as the meetings of the various smaller organizations, which exist in our large cities, to as high a state of perfection, in all respects, as is possible; so shall we be better prepared, when the time comes, to organize and gather a National assemblage which shall be a credit to our class and a benefit to all who attend; the result of whose deliberations shall be felt far and wide; the practical application of whose suggestions or decisions shall be attended with lasting good, both for this world and the next.

At no period of the world's history have there been so many brilliant intellects among the mutes as now; so many capable minds or such a probability of a successful issue to a project like this.

Let all our brethren combine their thoughts and opinions, decide what is good and then act upon it forthwith.

LET us have some plans for a memorial to Mr. Clerc.

DURING the week after the death of Mr. Clerc, both the deaf-mute societies in Boston, the *Union* and the *Association*, made preparations to commemorate the occasion by appropriate services, on the ensuing Sabbath.

On Sunday morning, the *Union*, at the invitation of the *Association*, united with it in its Hall, bringing along Prof. Bartlett, who occupied the desk and conducted the services. The desk of the Association was draped with black and the members all wore crape on the left arm. About seventy-five mutes were present, among whom we noticed Prof. Wilson Whiton of Hartford, the only survivor of the original class of seven deaf-mutes with which Messrs. Gallaudet and Clerc opened the American Asylum in 1817.

The services were very interesting. The funeral sermon will be found in the Religious Department.

Prof. Bartlett opened the services with the Doxology and prayer; he then read the 90th Psalm, illustrating it as he proceeded. He said:—

The occasion was one from which we might and ought to draw much instruction. This life was one of change and uncertainty. Life was as a river, flowing to the sea. Time was ever passing away to the ocean of Eternity. As the sailor, while floating down a river, prepares his vessel for "the broader sweep and surge sublime" of the Ocean, so we, in time, should prepare for eternity. As the waves of ocean unceasingly roll shoreward, are shattered on the rocks or spread upon the strand, and leave little or no trace behind; so we are born, live, grow old, (God grant we grow wise,) and pass away, leaving our places to be filled by others. Old age need bring no sorrows with it; it is the plan and appointment of God, our Creator. Earth would be a sad place without the assurance of an hereafter where those long parted shall meet again. Let us thank God that death, although the end of earth, is not the end of man. Think not of the dark and gloomy grave; look beyond it; it is but the entrance to a better life. As one, entering a picture-gallery, pays little attention to the entrance thereto, but fixes his eyes beyond, in anticipation of the glories which shall burst upon his vision when it is past, so we should act in view of death.

"Eternity has no grey hairs." Instead of mourning for him who is gone, let us rather rejoice that he has attained to peace and rest, and to the full possession of all his faculties. Let us consider that our loss is his gain, and let us profit by his example, imitate his virtues and prepare to follow him.

The sentiments and feelings of all who knew him might be appropriately expressed in the following lines:—

"Shed not for him the bitter tear,
Nor give the heart to vain regret;
'Tis but the casket that lies here,
The gem that filled it sparkles yet."

At the close of the last term there were two velocipedes owned by students of the Deaf-Mute College, but all enthusiasm for those machines had died out, they having failed to meet expectations.

MASSACHUSETTS DEAF-MUTE CHRISTIAN UNION.—At a meeting of this society, held in Boston, on Tuesday evening, July 27th, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted :—

Resolved. That we have heard, with deep sorrow, of the death of our venerable friend, LAURENT CLERC, the pioneer with GALLAUDET in deaf-mute instruction in this country; and while we recognize the Providence of God in this bereavement, we mourn for him as for a parent.

Resolved. That we cannot find words to express our love and respect for him who left home, country and friends for our sakes, and who, as a faithful instructor, a kind adviser and a loving friend, has had so much influence for good upon our lives.

Resolved. That in view of his long and useful life, his high qualifications as an educator of our class, the vigor and dis-interestedness with which he toiled in the cause, and the purity of his character and principles, we shall forever cherish his memory among our tenderest and brightest recollections.

Resolved. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, with our sympathy for their bereavement, and that copies be sent, for publication, of the *Hartford Courant*, and the DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND.

Resolved. That the members of the *Union* resolve themselves into a committee of the whole to take the initial steps towards the organization of a National Monument Association: to invite all mutes and their friends and teachers to unite with them in procuring subscriptions toward the erection of a suitable monument as a testimonial of the gratitude and respect entertained for him by them.

Resolved, That the necessary steps be early taken to secure a competent person to prepare and deliver, at some future time, an address commemorative of the life and services of our late worthy and venerated teacher.

Resolved, That Wm. Martin Chamberlain be and is hereby appointed Secretary for the Boston branch of the contemplated Monument Association, and that Philo W. Packard be appointed Treasurer and Receiver of the same.

Over one hundred dollars were subscribed for the object before the meeting broke up.

It is already apparent, from what we see and hear, that the movement for a memorial to Mr. Clerc will be cordially entertained, both by the deaf-mutes and their friends. Some action will doubtless be taken on the matter at the Ithaca Convention, and we desire to say that the columns of the FRIEND are open to any thing which will aid and forward the project.

WE shall give, in our next number, as full an account of the proceedings at Ithaca, with the incidents and other items of interest, as possible. If we can make an arrangement with the Association, as we shall endeavor to do, we will also give the Oration in full. In any case, we shall give an abstract of its most important features.

BOSTON DEAF-MUTE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—John O. David of Amherst, N. H., has preached two Sabbaths for this Society, and will probably continue to fill the desk until the return of Mr. Berry, the regular preacher.

A meeting of the Association was held August 5th, at which several new members were admitted, and the appointments of Messrs. Swett and David as agents, by the Board, confirmed.

Appropriate resolutions on the death of Mr. Clerc, and of sympathy with his family, were passed and Mr. Swett was appointed to draw them up in form for recording.

Mr. Swett, in an address which he made, expressed himself as much interested in the welfare of the Association, and ready and willing to do all he could for it.

It was voted to keep a book open for subscriptions to an appropriate memorial to Mr. Clerc, until some permanent and responsible organization at large was formed, when the book was to be handed over to the proper officer thereof for collection and disposal.

The members all felt much cheered and encouraged by the aspect of affairs.

Mr. Berry is expected to return early in September.

A LATE fire in Concord, N. H., consumed several buildings and much property. Among the sufferers was Mr. Archibald Allison, a deaf-mute and a graduate of Hartford, who lost all his tools and other effects to the value of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. He worked for Mr. George Bachelder, who was burned out. Mr. Allison is well known as a first-class boot maker, and is much valued by his employer. This is the second time he has lost his tools by fire.

WE desire to express our thanks to hearing people for the liberal manner in which they have contributed to the support of the FRIEND, and hope that they will continue to do so, we doing our best to make it interesting to them as well as to the deaf and dumb, whose continued and extended patronage we also ask, assured that we can give them a magazine which will do them good.

WILLIAM HURD, jr., of Stoneham, Mass., a deaf-mute, while attending a pic-nic at Nahant, lately, incautiously ventured too near the edge of a dangerous chasm known as the "Spouting Horn," and fell in. He was promptly rescued by his companions and escaped with only a thorough wetting. Had he been alone, or had those with him been less prompt, the result might have been more serious.

IN answer to inquiries, the Proprietors and Editor of the FRIEND would say that they both intend to be present at the Convention at Ithaca, where they hope to meet many old friends and make many new ones. There is no doubt of a good time and all are advised to go who can.

"THE Twelfth Report of the Georgia Institution" contains some items of interest.

The institution was closed, on account of the war, early in 1862, and was not opened again until the 4th of February, 1867, when it resumed operations with eight pupils, which gradually increased to twenty-five pupils before the end of the term, June 27th, 1867.

Mr. James Fisher, a graduate of Hartford, and for seven years a teacher in the Tennessee Institution, was secured as instructor and has proved worthy and well qualified.

Without any great effort on the part of the officers of the Institution, the number of pupils up to the date of report is forty-three.

The report says:—"With proper exertion, a much greater number could be induced to come. There are many parents who, from a mistaken tenderness, refuse to let their children leave home, thinking that the good accomplished amounts to but little. If an officer of the Institution was sent around through the State, not confining himself to the railroads, but going out into the mountains and dark corners, many might be gathered up who had never even heard of the school. This plan has been tried with success in many of the States and in our own to some extent."

It is recommended to place all the deaf children of the State on an equality and to repeal the law requiring them to show a certificate of poverty in order to gain admission to the Institution at the expense of the State. As we have before remarked, this law, once universal in the States, has been repealed in many of them, and we hope the rest will follow soon. "It does no good; it saves nothing to the State, and only keeps away pupils whose parents are too proud to enter them as indigents."

All the furniture belonging to the school-rooms, except the large slates and a few damaged desks, was removed or destroyed during the war. The school has consequently labored under great disadvantages and an appropriation is asked for to re-furnish the rooms with maps, globes and other necessary apparatus. The report agrees with others in its estimate of "articulation;" it is useful only to semi-deaf and semi-mute persons. Of the number now in the Institution, there are, perhaps, half a dozen, who could be given a very good use of spoken language, not, however, without the aid of signs.

The report of the Commissioners, which is very full, and recommends many useful improvements and beneficial changes, has one assertion which seems to us to be unfounded. It says, speaking of teachers of the deaf and dumb: "Their work is easy and their salaries high."—This is news to us; we have always considered the work of a *faithful* teacher of the deaf and dumb to be one involving a wear and tear of brain and nerve and patience, which is equalled in few professions, and we never thought any salary given to a teacher too high if the work was faithfully done. Of course, if the pupils are quick and intelligent, the labor of the teacher is much lightened and his salary is higher, in proportion to the labor performed, than that of another

teacher at the same salary but with duller scholars. If the teacher is unfaithful, and indolent, then his salary is too high for the work he does, not for what he is expected to do. Allowing the average intelligence of the pupils to be about the same as in other Institutions, we cannot see that the salaries now paid are *high*; the Principal getting \$1000, the first assistant teacher \$800, and the second teacher \$300. (With or without board, the report does not say.) If the teachers are faithful, these salaries are too low; if unfaithful, discharge them and procure new ones, although this is not very easy. The Commissioners object to raising the salaries of teachers on the ground that, the more salary they get, the less work they will do; a poor compliment to the present principal and teachers, undeserved as we are sure, and we think the conclusion of the Commissioners in the matter is an unjust and unfounded aspersion of every faithful teacher in the land. With this *exception* and the remarks made in this connection, the report of the Commissioners shows a commendable interest in the Institution.

As there was no provision for the colored deaf-mutes should any be found, and hardly room for the whites, the Board, while standing ready to educate the colored portion, whenever the means are placed at their command, represent that, in order to do this, additional buildings, teachers, &c., will be necessary. If all the suggestions of the Commissioners are carried out, Georgia, the Empire State of the South, will yet have an Institution of which any State might be proud.

"THE Eleventh Annual Report of the Halifax N. S. Institution, which lies before us, should have been noticed before. This school, has, in the eleven years of its existence, risen from a very small and obscure beginning to a state of usefulness and comfort. Mr. Hutton, its principal, is a man of untiring energy and faith, and his exertions in the cause of deaf-mute instruction have been productive of much good.

The present number of pupils is 36—19 males and 17 females—32 boarders, and 4 day pupils. Their ages range from 6 to 30 years.

The report expresses no confidence in the teaching of articulation to congenital mutes, and has, therefore, little sympathy with the movement in Massachusetts, "to revive and extend" this oldest and all but obsolete method of deaf-mute instruction; an agitation carried on chiefly by parties not practically conversant with the subject, aided by a few educated mutes of undoubted, but in this case perverted talents, who entirely owe their ability to take part in the controversy to the very system which they so thanklessly denounce—an agitation dis-countenanced by every name of eminence among instructors of the Deaf and Dumb in Britain and America.

Six years is not long enough for a deaf-mute's education, twelve would be much better. Massachusetts has recently extended the term of instruction of her mutes to ten years, and it is hoped that Nova Scotia will, ere long, go and do likewise.

WE have received a copy of the Report of the Liverpool (Eng.) School for the Deaf and Dumb, for 1868, which quietly, but successfully, continues to fulfil its purpose. It gives education freely to all who want it, charging a fixed sum for board and lodging, and that so moderate that only the generous support of the public enables it to receive and instruct the large numbers of pupils now there. (95.)

There is a Sunday service and a Benevolent Society connected with the Institution.

Appended to the Institution Report is the Report of the Deaf and Dumb Adults' Benevolent Society "whose object is, in the words of the Report:—"To help the needy; feed the hungry; minister to the sick; help the destitute; stretch forth the hand of assistance to the stranger and the orphan, and to lay the departed in their final resting place," and all these various duties the managers have been called upon to perform the past year.

When accidental injury or sickness disables a deaf and dumb workman the help afforded by this society comes in, and if by temporary assistance the sufferer can be maintained until he is sufficiently recovered to go to work again, a great deal more has been done than merely keeping a sick person off the parish.

The purpose of this society is to help the deaf and dumb to get their own living. It will do all it can to help the deserving, but will never encourage laziness or begging. The public are requested never to help any beggar who is, or pretends to be, deaf and dumb. (We recommend this to the attention of the people in this country. Ed.). Those who really require help can have it from those who, having a full knowledge of the circumstances, and being deaf and dumb themselves, know what to give and how to give it, so that it may serve its purpose more effectually.

WE find the following in the *Hartford Courant* of Saturday, Aug. 7th:—

"At noon on Friday, the brick barn connected with the American Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb was discovered to be on fire, and, though an alarm was promptly given, the distance of the steamers from the spot prevented their arrival until the flames had taken complete possession of the upper part of the building, though they did excellent service in saving the lower portion. There were thirty-two tons of hay destroyed, and the damage to the building will be about eight hundred dollars, which is covered by insurance. While the fire was in progress, falling slates from the roof struck two or three persons, and David J. Jordan, a member of "Alert" Hose Co., was badly cut on the head. It is supposed the fire caught from a pipe which a laborer was carelessly smoking on the premises. He was arrested, but nothing will be done with him, probably; he denies being in the building. His name is Daniel Bryant."

This line has its use, like other small things: it helps to fill out the page.

From the *Intelligencer*, a Canada paper, we glean the following particulars respecting the new Provincial Institution for the deaf and dumb, now being erected at Belleville, Canada :—

It presents a front of 208 feet, 9 inches. Depth in centre, 159 feet, 4 in. Height to ridge of roof, 63 feet. The main hall is 76x12 feet, leading into a dining room 60x30 feet, capable of seating 350 inmates. The kitchen is 32x24 feet. Height of tower, to top of vane, 154 feet. The building will be warmed by steam. The sitting rooms of the boys and girls, one in the east and the other in the west wing of the building, are each 160x37 feet. The Lecture Hall will seat 350 pupils and 500 visitors.

Altogether, a noble edifice, essentially modified from the usual style and arrangement of collegiate buildings to suit the requirements of the deaf and dumb.

The farm, which contains eighty-six acres, is at present in a very poor condition, but it is fair to presume, judging by the productive powers of the farms around, that scientific farming will make it a model for the East. At present, it contains a crop of thistles, four feet high, which gives much alarm to the owners of the surrounding property.

The Institution is situated on a rising ground and commands a view of some of the finest scenery in British America. It is no "building on the sand," as its foundations rest on a bed of solid rock.

The contractor is under bonds to have it ready for the reception of the deaf and dumb on the first of September, 1870, and those concerned think that it will be well done and be completed within the time specified.

ABOUT thirty of the deaf-mutes of Boston and vicinity lately went on a pic-nic excursion to the Maolis Gardens at Nahant. They started from Boston at six o'clock, A. M., in a large team with four horses, and returned about eleven. P. M. We were prevented from going with them, but we hear that they all enjoyed themselves hugely, which we can readily believe, as "Dr. Syntax," "Sepoy" and "The Deacon," whom "Raphael Palette" so highly eulogized in his account of a sleigh-ride to S——, some two years ago, were of the party.

WE desire to call particular attention to Prof. I. L. Peet's sermon, in the Religious Department. Although written for and delivered to the pupils of the New York Institution, it is equally appropriate for those of any other and there is much in it to benefit and instruct older and wiser people.

WE have received, with the regards of the members, a handsome photograph of the Graduating Class of the National Deaf-Mute College. We have had it appropriately framed and given it an honorable place among our "household gods."

EXCHANGES and articles for insertion should be sent to Marblehead, Mass.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[As a general rule, we shall answer the letters we receive, other than strictly business ones, in this department. If an answer by mail is desired to a letter which asks for information outside of business matters, it can be had by enclosing a stamp to pay return postage.

Three cents is a small sum to pay for one, but if we were to mail answers to all letters we receive, it would cost us many dollars. We shall always be happy to give any information in our power, subject only to the above condition.

All persons, either subscribers or correspondents, will please write name, town, county and state plainly and fully; this will prevent mistakes and save much trouble. In case of removal, let us know immediately, giving both present and former place of residence.

Write whatever you know, feel or think, which you consider of interest; we will make all necessary corrections in the articles we use, and thank you for them.

Correspondents can generally tell whether their articles are received and what we intend to do with them by looking below. We especially desire that all our regular correspondents should send in their favors during the first week of each month, to enable us to go to press early.

All business letters must be addressed to SWETT & CHAMBERLAIN, Henniker, N. H., U. S. A. Address Exchanges, and all articles and letters for the Editor, to THE DEAF-MUTES' FRIEND, Marblehead, Mass.]

J. C.—After the Convention, we will attend to it,

T. W.—All in good time. Please have patience. Such things are not spoiled by keeping.

LIZZIE.—Our silence has been enforced by press of care. We hope for a respite after the gathering at Ithaca shall have adjourned, and will then try to reduce arrearages. "Out of sight, out of mind," does not apply to us.

W. S. S.—No charge is made for such items as the one you sent.

J. J. F.—Your letter to Mr. S. was duly received. We are glad to see that you at last admit the correctness of our remarks concerning "The Israelites being desired to go in advance of Moses into the wilderness and prepare a place for him in the Promised Land; he, meantime, remaining among the flesh pots of Egypt." We made the remarks years ago and they were protested against at the time. This late admission is better than none. We do not think the project either has, or ever did have, the 'ghost of a chance.'

IVANHOE.—Have been waiting for farther particulars from 'down east.' No answer yet. This will explain apparent neglect.

J. G.—Have no recollection of your April letter, but have sent as desired.

J. W. Mystic.—In our next. Have made the change in your address.

G. PINNA.—Yours received. Hope to be down in October.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

DEAR FRIEND:—Perhaps your readers would like to see one of the diplomas awarded by the National Deaf-Mute College to its graduates; and it is the sincere hope of your correspondent that many of them, the younger portion at least, may at some future day be gratified, when they, having completed an honorable course of study, step proudly up and receive one with a low bow from the President's hands, while friends and spectators applaud. But as many of them, like myself, have passed the Rubicon of all such possibilities, yet still preserve an interest in such incentives to youthful ambition, I will give a description of the one at which I got a peep.

It is a sheet of genuine parchment, 19x15 inches. It is a lithograph and is finely executed by J. F. Gedney of Washington. The heading, "National Deaf-Mute College," is in fine Old English lettering, highly ornamented, and the body of the instrument is in Script. It reads as follows:

To all to whom these presents may come ;

GREETING :

By Authority conferred by the United States of America upon the Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, and in consideration of the attainments of JOHN DOE after pursuing a course of four years' study in the Department of the said Institution known and designated as the NATIONAL DEAF-MUTE COLLEGE, we the Board of Directors of the said Institution have conferred upon the said JOHN DOE the Degree of Bachelor of Arts and we do declare him to be entitled to all the confidence, honor and respect pertaining to one who is deserving of that Degree.

In Testimony whereof we have caused this Diploma to be issued, and have directed the Seal of this Institution and the signatures of the Patron and President thereof to be affixed hereto this twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

U. S. GRANT,

President of the United States. Ex-Officio Patron.

E. M. GALLAUDET, *President.*

WM. STICKNEY, *Secretary.*

[L. S.]

As the signature of President Grant is genuine, it adds an interest to the "sheepskin," and is what the graduates of no other College can boast.

The vacation gives to everything about the Institution and College a deserted, dreary aspect, so that it invariably saddens me to look upon scenes

which for nine months have been enlivened by youthful and joyous spirits, some of whom have gone away not to return; and I am always wishing them back again and none so glad as I to welcome those who return at the re-assembling in the Fall.

Your readers will forgive me if, during this dearth of news, I retrospect so far as to speak of the Sunday School, its concerts and pic-nics.

These concerts are, as the Superintendent remarked, not a harmony of voices, but a harmony of hearts in the praise of God; and it is the endeavor of all concerned to obtain that sweet accord without which no gathering can appropriately praise Him, no matter how fine the musical performance may be. It is well known that no device has been invented by which a substitute for the pleasures of music can be provided for the deaf, and as it is regarded as next to an impossibility, there is no attempt at it in the Sunday School of this Institution. There was, indeed, at the commencement of the project, a faint endeavor to substitute the simultaneous signing of a hymn by several of the pupils for singing, but it was never resumed after the first trial and may be considered as practically abandoned. The concerts are held monthly, on Sunday evenings, and are opened by a prayer from the Superintendent, after which the scholars are called upon for verses containing a word that has been given out previously. These verses are picked out by the pupils from their Bibles and committed to memory for the occasion. In this way many very beautiful texts are brought out, and in quantity sufficient to furnish the most voluble of preachers with subjects enough for several years in the pulpit. This exercise has the effect of storing up in the youthful minds of the scholars many precious truths and promises which will, perhaps, come back to them in after years of trouble and sorrow well freighted with the consolation and hope which the Bible alone can give, or flashing across their memory in the hour of temptation, keep their hands from sin and their hearts from guile.

Short and simple addresses are then delivered by some of the teachers or others invited to do so, on subjects of interest to the children and the older scholars. These addresses often bear some relation to the word given out as the subject for texts, although not necessarily. The object is to please, interest and instruct the children in the truths of religion, and at the same time praise God.

After these addresses, a prayer is offered and the assemblage disperses, having spent an hour very agreeably. The interest of all is evident from the eagerness with which they welcome the advent of the next concert, and the full attendance of the scholars, whose presence is entirely optional.

The pic-nic that the school held in June was very much like that of hearing children. There were large swings and other devices for the innocent amusement of the young people; and when these had tired their little bodies and they had run themselves out of breath with dashing in and out among the trees in the pursuit of butterflies and flowers or each other; when the older ones had amused themselves with mirthful converse or in watching the

boisterous gambols of the smaller children or aided them in their sports until themselves weary, then they were all summoned to partake of the bountiful refreshments provided in the shape of strawberries, ice-cream, lemonade and cake. The time—rosy June,—the place—Mr. Kendall's splendid woods, with all their luxuriance of foliage and richness of coloring, ornamented with innumerable little flags and a great one gracefully drooping over the speakers' stand,—the company—youthful companions and friends and loved teachers,—all conspired to make the scene exhilarating and the repast one of rare refreshment. The Superintendent, in his happy speech, stated one piece of news which was received with tumultuous applause by all present and is of sufficient importance to warrant its transfer to my letter. It was, that the Board of Directors had voted to extend the vacation by dismissing the school one week earlier and re-assembling it one week later, thus making it thirteen weeks in all. This was thought necessary on account of the inconvenience of studying in the warm weather of this latitude; which reason was heartily endorsed by the students, whose "great go," or annual examination, as it is called in the catalogue, comes off in the hottest and most trying part of June.

Great praise is due to the excellent Committee of Arrangements who had this pic-nic in charge, and all who participated in it are looking forward to the next one with longing eagerness, including your correspondent, whose satisfaction may possibly have arisen from the excellence of the viands provided.

I ought to mention that this Sunday School, whose system of missionary contribution I referred to in one of my former letters, has given the handsome sum of thirty dollars to the cause of Foreign Missions. This is very creditable when it is considered that the sum comes out of the childrens' spending money, and is an entirely voluntary gift of a school of about seventy scholars. The monthly collections averaged about six dollars, which will compare very favorably with any Sunday School of its size. The children, themselves, chose the object to which the funds were devoted,

Faithfully,

July 22.

CLYMER.

"J. C.," of Indiana, writes:—

"I think the object of the proposed convention of mutes noble and important, but do not like the idea of holding it in Washington City. Why not in Richmond, Va.? Either place is too far out of the way. The glories of the Capitol will not induce any of the Western mutes to go thither.

I have read, in the last issue of the FRIEND, all the fugitive communications in regard to the convention and its location. I find that the policy of W. K. C. is the best as yet. He has infused some sense into his article. Columbus, Ohio, is a very central point in the States. No one knows where the heart of the Union lies. We have not all the territories yet.

I am of the opinion that Columbus is just the place for the convention, so much talked of in the FRIEND. The East has occasionally seen mute gatherings. The Great West has never seen such. If the convention be held in Columbus, the mute Westerners will stand on tip-toe with expectation, and do all they can for its object or purposes. Sow good seed broadcast and you will reap a rich harvest. I have been in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Columbus, and other cities in the United States, and have never seen a finer or more pleasant town than Columbus."

A YOUNG man named Powell was struck deaf and dumb while mocking a deaf and dumb person on the cars in Tennessee a short time ago.

The above paragraph has been going the rounds of the newspapers for some time. We learn that the medical men who attended the young man state that the immediate cause of his dumbness was his having sat at an open window of the car in which he was travelling and thus caught cold; but the young man himself wrote to this effect: "God has sent this affliction upon me to teach the lesson that we should never make sport of those whom He has been pleased to visit with infirmities of any kind."

✕ A DEAF-MUTE of brilliant intellect, now deceased, once hired a team at a livery stable in Belfast, Maine, and went to ride. After going a couple of miles, he discovered that the horse was a poor one and, turning about, he drove back to the stable. Arriving there, he alighted, pulled out pencil and paper, and asked the keeper; "Is *this* a horse?" The keeper read it, looked first at the questioner and next at the animal, and then he turned away and ordered out the best horse in the stable, with which our friend was satisfied.

ADVERSITY.—A black cloud makes the traveller mend his pace and mind his home; whereas, a fair day and a pleasant way wastes his time. We should take it as a mercy, that now and then some clouds come between us and the sun; and many times some troubles do conceal our comforts; for it is easy to perceive that if we should find too much friendship in our inn, in our pilgrimage, we should soon forget our Father's house, and our heritage.

OUR own hands are Heaven's favorite instruments for supplying us with the necessities and luxuries of life, and we should have the courage to prefer comfort and prosperity to fashion and luxury in all things.

✕ A HARTFORD mute, being asked the orthodox question: "What is the chief end of man," replied, "I am not sure, but I think the head is."

✕ A DEAF-MUTE, wishing to express the idea that boys like play more than girls, wrote: "Boys *play* and girls *display*."

EMPIRE STATE ASSOCIATION OF DEAF-MUTES.

NOTICE.

THE third biennial Convention of the "Empire State Association of Deaf-Mutes," will be held at Ithaca, N. Y., August 25th and 26th, 1869.

John Carlin, Esq., of New York City, has consented to deliver the Oration, and Wm. Martin Chamberlain of Marblehead, Mass., will act as alternate orator.

Messrs. Taber, Bartlett and McDougal, Committee of Arrangements, will be on hand to attend to the convenience of all who may call on them, and to the general facilitation of the Convention.

Rev. Dr. Gallaudet of New York expects to hold a service on Wednesday evening, the 25th; the Bishop preaching through his interpretation.

Several prominent gentlemen, both deaf and hearing, from this and other States, have already signified their intention to be present.

F. M. Finch, Esq., Secretary of the "Cornell Library Association," has, on behalf of its officers, offered the gratuitous use of their splendid Library Hall for the meetings of the Convention; and also signified their readiness to render any assistance or courtesy in their power.

THE TOMPKINS HOUSE and the CLINTON HOUSE will accommodate as many delegates as they can at a reduction of their usual rates: the former at from one dollar and a half to two dollars, and the latter at from two to three dollars per day. The ITHACA HOUSE will, however, charge its usual rate of three dollars per day, owing to its being constantly full; but inexpensive accommodations can otherwise be made if necessary.

The Boats plying between Ithaca and Cayuga leave Cayuga regularly at 8 o'clock, A. M., and at 3 o'clock, P. M., arriving at Ithaca at 12 M., and at 7 P. M.

All arrangements with the Rail-road and Steamboat Companies, which are yet being made, will be completed as soon as possible. The most convenient are the NEW YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD to Owego, the ITHACA AND OWEGO RAILROAD to Ithaca; the PEOPLE'S LINE OF BOATS or the HUDSON RIVER and NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROADS to Cayuga, and the ITHACA AND CAYUGA LINE OF BOATS to Ithaca. With these rail-roads are connected several others, few of which will be excluded.

Only those who pay full fare on the routes over which they go to the Convention, by which they must return, and become members of the Association while there, will be provided with FREE RETURN TICKETS by the Secretary at the Convention.

Ithaca is widely noted for its remarkable waterfalls, which range from one to four hundred feet in height and all possess great attractions to the lovers of the wonders of nature.

There is situated the famous Cornell University, the Agricultural Department of which possesses several hundred acres under high cultivation. It will be worth visiting, especially by those who are farmers, who constitute a great portion of our class.

As Ithaca is an attractive and accessible place, it is reasonable to expect a large gathering, both to seek rural pleasures among the hills and to indulge in mental nourishment on the exercises of the Convention.

The proceedings are expected, so far as arrangements have been made, to be of unusual interest, and the Board earnestly request all who can, to be present.

A. JOHNSON, *President*.

H. C. RIDER, *Secretary*.

NOTICE.

THE members of THE EPSILON SIGMA SOCIETY are requested to be on hand at the Convention at Ithaca, where a meeting of as many as can be present will be held.

H. D. REAVES, *President*.

A. JOHNSON, *Secretary*.

Marriages.

At the home of the bride, July 22nd, by Rev. John Day, Mr. WILLIAM S. SMITH of Flint, Michigan, to Miss CORA WYNKOOP of Hopewell, N. Y. (Both graduates of the New York Institution.)

Boston Deaf-Mute Christian Association.

This Association holds Religious Services in the "Sign Language," every SUNDAY, at No. 460 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 11, at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M.

JOHN O. DAVID, of Amherst, N. H., preaches during the absence, for the Summer, of T. W. BERRY, the regular preacher of the Association.

WM. LYNDE, *Secretary*.

J. P. MARSH, *President*.

Massachusetts Deaf-Mute Christian Union.

Regular Sunday Services conducted by Prof. DAVID E. BARTLETT, of Hartford, at No. 460 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 13, at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M.

 The public are cordially invited to attend.

WM. MARTIN CHAMBERLAIN, *Corresponding Secretary*.

WM. BAILEY, *President*.